



HYDE DE VILLAIN

2014 BELLE COUSINE HYDE VINEYARD NAPA VALLEY

PROPRIETORS:	Mr. and Mrs. Aubert de Villaine Mr. and Mrs. Laurence W. Hyde Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Hyde III
APPELLATION:	Los Carneros, Napa Valley
VINEYARD:	Hyde Vineyard, at the eastern edge of Los Carneros District
AGE OF VINES:	14 to 30 years
EXPOSURE:	South by southeast
SOIL:	Shallow loam over clay hardpan
SUBTERRANEAN:	Ancient terraces and alluvial fans
ACREAGE:	5.87 acres
HARVEST DATES:	September 12 & 18 (Merlot) and October 2 (Cabernet Sauvignon)
VARIETAL BLEND:	47% Merlot, 53% Cabernet Sauvignon
BARREL AGING:	22 months; 30% new French oak
BOTTLED:	July 20, 2016; unfinned and unfiltered
ALCOHOL :	14.9%
PRODUCTION:	730 cases (9L)

VINTAGE NOTES

After one of the driest winters on record in 2013, the rains eventually came between February and April 2014, and the ground was saturated fairly quickly. The rain was perfectly timed during bud break, promoting rapid, healthy growth in the vineyard. An unseasonably warm spring, followed by consistently warm summer days, promoted accelerated growth, ideal pollination and early véraison in late June. We experienced a few cooler days in August, which slowed ripening and helped preserve the mineral and fresh components in the wine. The clusters and berries were small in 2014, a marker of a great vintage. Harvest started mid-August and finished the first week of October.

WINEMAKER NOTES

Rose potpourri, leather and cocoa layer in the glass to delicately compliment beautiful aromas of plum, fresh blueberry and savory spice. Dry herbs and a hint of fresh olive give this wine depth and complexity. This wonderfully balanced wine accents the timeless companionship of these two Bordeaux varieties. Freshness and minerality accompany silky and complex tannin texture. Firm yet elegant, 2014 Belle Cousine displays black cherry and fresh blackcurrant notes that build into a delightfully long-lasting finish. Even in its youth this wine displays depth and harmony that guarantees it will drink spectacularly for years to come!

—Stéphane Vivier, Winemaker

WHO IS LA BELLE COUSINE?

The name Belle Cousine is a reference to Pamela Fairbanks de Villaine, Larry Hyde's lovely cousin who is the wife of Aubert de Villaine of Burgundy. It is Pamela who brings these visionary viticultural families from Burgundy and the Carneros region of Napa Valley together to make wines that express the character of place, with that rare minerality so dear to the Burgundian palate.

